

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of: ) Group Art Unit:  
Yi LU )  
Application No. ) Examiner:  
Filed: )  
For: Nucleic Acid Enzyme Biosensors for )  
Ions )

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 1.53(b)**

Dear Sir:

The above-identified application is a divisional of Application No. 09/605,558 filed June 27, 2000. Please amend the instant application as follows.